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CHILDREN & FAMILIES COMMITTEE November 15, 2013 Exhibit 14

This is a glass half full an opportunity to address the three issues as they are tied together in a convoluted way. Overcrowded forensic unit, the transfer law to lower census, and no mental health ARM's within corrections, and no oversight once the patient/inmate is transferred to corrections facilities.

We continue with the discussion of facilities especially a need for a larger or multiple forensic units within communities, with adequate physically capable, mental health trained staff. And If we go there then the law 46-14-312 should be repealed or restated:

- 1. if such a transfer occurs than guaranteed same services if transferred
- 2. independent licensed mental health provider appointed by court overseeing and ensuring these transfers are getting the guaranteed same services
- 3. independent licensed mental health provider appointed by court must deem inmate/patient is stable enough to go back to hospital to continue treatment services.
- 4. ARM's need to be addressed.

This law needs to be addressed and changed (as well as the ARM's) to make sure the patient/inmate receives the same treatment and services, and rehabilitation opportunities as they would if at Montana State Hospital due to this transfer, even if the State must have to hire outside independent licensed mental health providers to make sure the patient/inmate is getting their needs met. In addition, the law needs to be addressed and changed to guarantee them transfer back to the hospital once the inmate/patient is stable enough not to be a harm to themselves or others - and it must be deemed through an outside, unbiased, independent licensed mental health provider (appointed by the court) who can make these conclusions. This eliminates any bias on MSH or MSP staff to make that decision.

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